

West Meadows Trail Project

key Jordan Valley concept plan recommendations



Planned Trail

- Open Space
- Greenway Trails
- Stormwater Improvements
- Wetlands
- Native grasses & Wildflowers
- Rail Reconfiguration



2008 Flooding



Planned Open Spaces



BNSF Railroad

History of the West Meadows

- Abandoned rail yard
- Contamination on over 75% of property
- Donated to City by the BNSF Railroad
- Historic Fulbright homestead & spring
- North of Historic Route 66
- Civil War Union encampment to south

Environmental Assessments & Findings

- **Phase I:**
Identified historical land use as an environmental concern – e.g. rail yard and associated industrial operations.
- **Phase II:**
 - Contamination covers approximately 75% of sites 1-8 — top 4'-8' of soil — fill materials.
 - More soil impacts in central and west-central portions.
 - Petroleum impacts observed in spring(s).
 - Contamination consistent with historical land use.
 - 19,000 cubic yards of concrete.



Environmental Cleanup

- 13,500 tons of impacted soil removed.
- 57,500 cubic yards of impacted soil managed in on-site mounds.
- 8,500 cubic yards of concrete reused for stream and crushed for the greenway trail bed.
- 43,000 square feet of concrete foundations removed.
- Management of impacted soils on-site saved over 3,800 dump truck trips to the landfill, saving over 90,000 miles of soil hauling.
- Disposed of buried drums, trash, piles of surface debris, abandoned water lines, former foundations and former rail lines during the cleanup activities.



Project Benefits

- 2nd largest stormwater retention in Springfield.
- 18 acres of greenspace added.
- 10 million gallons of stormwater capacity gained = 15 Olympic sized swimming pools!
- Historic Fulbright Spring discovered during excavation — the location of one of Springfield's earliest settlements, used by Union soldiers during the Civil War and emits 100 gallons of water per minute.
- 2 pocket wetlands.
- 3,000 feet of trail.
- 20 new trees planted annually.
- Education elements in progress (historical & environmental).

Next Steps

- Continue investigation of petroleum source in Fulbright Spring.
- Construct greenway trail — Grant announced.
- Complete Tree Planting Master Plan and implement — Public Works
- Add parking.
- Replace bridge at Main Avenue — Funded and construction design in process.
- Further develop Concept Plan elements:
 - Interpretive signage
 - Kiosk on mound
 - Streamside learning center
 - Wetlands
 - Picnic areas
 - Streetscapes on Fort



Thank you to our Partners!

- Environmental Protection Agency — \$2 Million in Brownfields Cleanup Grants
- Department of Natural Resources — Technical oversight for cleanup
- Ozark Greenways — partnership on subgrants and trail
- Federal Transportation — Grant for greenway trail
- Kansas State University — Landscape Plan
- Missouri Department of Conservation — Wetlands consultation
- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad — Land donation
- US Army Corps of Engineers — Stormwater Feasibility Study
- Jordan Valley Advisory Committee — Planning and Visioning
- Citizens of Springfield — Community input and ¼ cent support



Note: Please be advised that achieving the community vision for West Meadows as described in The Jordan Valley Concept Master Plan (2014) is a long term project dependant on many factors including funding. These Brownfields assessments and environmental cleanups are the first step towards accomplishing the project and opening the property to the public for reuse. For more information about West Meadows visit: www.springfieldmo.gov/brownfields